28th January 1931] [Mr. P. T. Rajan]

I may say that as a matter of fact the Indian Central Cotton Committee have been evincing great interest for the improvement of cotton crop. For the past so many years the Government have been trying to combat the pest diseases with regard to paddy, sugar-cane and groundnut. The provisions of the Pest Act are being rigorously enforced and resorted to very often. The department is also trying to combat the disease to palmyra trees.

"Nothing has been done in connection with coffee at all. This research is only the beginning. We are trying to prohibit the import of unroasted coffee beans into this Presidency. I hope the Council will pass this grant."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"I beg to withdraw my cut motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Grant XXIII—Agriculture—Transferred."

The demand was carried and the grant made.

III.—ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF INDUSTRIES.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to announce that the following candidates have been duly nominated for election to the Board of Industries:—

1. Mr. H. M. JAGANNATHAM.
2. " YAKUB HASAN.
3. Zamindar of MIRZAPURAM.

"As the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled up, viz., two, there will be an election between 1-30 p.m. and 2-30 p.m. to-morrow, in accordance with the regulations made for the conduct of elections by the single transferrable vote."

IV.—ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAY COMPANY.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to announce that the following candidates have been duly nominated for election to the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Advisory Committee:—

1. Mr. A. HARISCHANDRUDU.
2. Rao Sahib C. JAYARAM NAYUDU.
3. Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI.

"As the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled up, viz., two, an election will be held to-morrow by the ordinary method of voting between 1-30 and 2-30 p.m."

V.—THE MADRAS MOTOR VEHICLES TAXATION BILL.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I appoint Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed as the Chairman of the Select Committee to consider the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Bill (Bill No. II of 1931)."